CENTENARY COLLEGE

VOLUME VIII

Maroon and White

NUMBER III

JANUARY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTEEN

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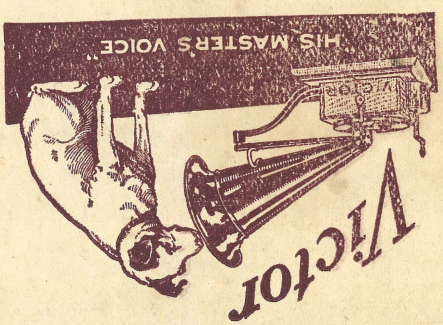

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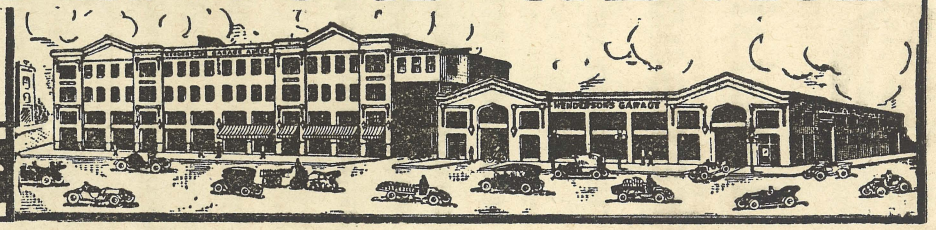

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Literary Department

CENSORSHIP.

This is the people's war. Their sacrifices, their money, and their blood are the only factors that make its continuation possible. Therefore they have the inviolable right of knowing how their own subject is progressing. If there is bad management in any phase of war activity, the public should know it. Perhaps it may be claimed that to give the people information of reverses, bad management and poor progress would dishearten the nation and cause the American people to give up hope. That argument is a misjudgment of the psychology of the nation. What are setbacks to an American save a spur to increased activity? Surely bad news, in time of war, is better than no news; for if a strict censorship forbids news reaching the public ears which is not the best news, THEN will there be a tendency to inactivity. The people will gradually forget that the war is going on, and say to themselves "Well, everything must be getting along all right over there. I should worry and be thrifty."

I do not maintain that we should have absolute freedom of the press in time of war. Some valuable information might make its way into the hands of the enemy, thereby giving him aid. But what is the value, what is the SENSE in such absolute choking of the press? Why, even good stories are barred, because their contents maybe perhaps might give the Germans an inkling into our social life. If a happy Sammy sends a cablegram home, upon setting foot in France, he is liable to court-martial because of being so utterly foolhardy as to tell the world (and incidentally, the kaiser) of his whereabouts. Of course this kind of censorship is very wise, because should Germany realize that Sammy is in France, they would, without a shadow of doubt, begin at once to

make a terrible battle against this mighty American—this American who was a fool for not keeping his mouth shut.

Now, as a matter of fact Germany knows more about our troops in France than we do; they know approximately how many are over there; they know where the army camps are located; they know to what French ports our transports go; they know what portion of the front our soldiers have taken over (if they have taken over ANY). Yet we, in America, have all these things kept from us for "strategic reasons." All our information is very vague. For instance, about all we know is that "Pershing's thousands" are "Somewhere in France," and that "sometime in the future our troops may be likely to take over some part of the western front." Now that is satisfying, isn't it?

Who is this over-lord, this private dispenser of public knowledge, this censor? He holds no high military rank; he is not an expert press reporter; he is not even a noted psychologist. He is an ordinary man who says what we shall know and what shall be kept from us. Our high military officials may have some very important information to send to us, yet this demigod may toss it flippantly into the waste-basket, murmuring to himself, "I don't think that would aid matters any." Aagin, it is probable that big blunders may be pulled off by some of our officers. Since the censor is a man, THESE may not be known to the public.

The United States of America is a Democracy. If the public cannot be trusted with a knowledge of their own affairs, they cannot be expected to support it; at least to their highest possibility.

It may be argued that much of the news which DOES get into the newspapers is FALSE. Granted that as true, does it praise or condemn censorship? The public demands information, and the press, in a desperate attempt to satisfy that craving, grabs at any war news which has the APPEARANCE of being official. Had we a less stringent censor, interesting, true and official news might reach us every day.

The essence of a Democracy is government by the people. Under this term "government" comes every issue which interests the nation as a whole. What interests the heart of EVERY American as deeply as the war? About what does he CARE to know more? About what does he know LESS?

High military officials agree that nothing, save the exact moment of an attack, can be hidden from the enemy. If this true (and these men should know) the government should tear away the curtain of secrecy and let all America know what is happening.

BRAZIL.

The Republic of the United States of Brazil, including the territory of the Acre, is the largest of the South American nations, and the second of the continent, covering an area of 3,300,000 square miles. Without including Alaska, the area of the United States of America is some 300,000 square miles less than that of Brazil, so that in this case, it is the largest of the American Republics. It is calculated that the population is about 23,000,000, and the language is Portugese.

To Pedro Alvares Cabral, a Portugese navigator, is generally attributed the glory of having discovered Brazil, when on the 24th of April in 1500 he disembarked not far from the present cite of the city of Sao Salvador (today called Bahia); however, it is said that various other navigators had landed on the coasts of Brazil some years before. Cabral gave the country the name of "Terre de Santa Cruz," and took possession of it in the name of the king of Portugal. Settlement was not attempted until the year 1549, when Tomas de Sousa was named Governor General.

The crown of Portugal divided the country into captaincies which he conceded to Portugese nobles who were to rule and colonize them, and moreover, besides the land, he gave them a number of Indian slaves. With the Gobernador de Sousa came the first jesuites, and these gained success in getting the complete submission of the natives. In order to prevent the Indians from being slaves for the

colonists, the jesuites recommended and began the importation of african slaves during the two following centuries.

Between the years 1555 and 1640 the country suffered numerous invasions by the French, Dutch and English, who tried to take possession of Brazilian territory. In the first three years Vice-Admiral Villegaignon established a colony of French Hugenots on an island in the bay of Rio de Janerio, an island which today is called by his name, and on which he remained until the year 1560. The Dutch established themselves in Pernambuco in the year 1631, and extended their power, little by little, over a considerable portion of Brazil. Prince Muricio de Nassau was named governor of the Dutch possessions in Brazil in 1636, and it was not until 1648 that the Dutch were obliged to leave the country.

Brazil was constituted in 1640 in Virrenato with its capital at Rio de Janerio; and in the first of the nineteenth century when Napoleon invaded Spain and Portugal, the Portugese monarch, Don Juan VI, retired to his American kingdom, having arrived at Rio de Janerio on January 21st, 1808, with all his family and court, and opened the ports of Brazil to the commerce of the world. The King Juan established schools, formed general interests in the colony, and when, in the year 1821 he went back to Portugal, he named his eldest son, Dom Pedro, Regent of Brazil. Dom Pedro began the movement in favor of the independence or separation from Portugal, and on the 7th of September in 1822 he formally proclaimed the independence of Brazil, and on the 12th of October in the same year was solemnly made ruler of the nation. Under his administration, and with the able help of his prime minister, Bonifacio Jose de Andrada, Brazil prospered.

Dom Pedro ruled for nine years, and at the end of that time abdicted the throne in 1831 in favor of his youngest son, Dom Pedro II. A regent was named to rule until 1840 when the young ruler became of age and was crowned. Dom Pedro II reigned until 1889, when the Brazilian people took the means of changing their form of government, from a monarchy to a republic, which was verified without the shedding of blood, on the 15th of November of that year, the day on which the republic was

proclaimed. The nation is now a federal union of states, governed under the constitution of 1891.

Being entirely within the temperate and tropical zones, Brazil has a moderate climate; nevertheless on the numerous high plateaus and chains of mountains, as well as by its extensive systems of rivers, there are dilating and fertile plains which produce all the fruits of the tropics, and contain rich and almost impenetrable forests. Coffee in the first place, rubber, coaco, and the Brazilian dye wood called "palo del Brazil" are the principal articles of exportation. To these should be added cotton, sugar cane,, tobacco, bananas and other fruits which are also shipped in great quantities. The sylvian wealth of Brazil has scarcely been estimated yet; and it said that there is no other region in the world which contains such a great variety of useful and ornamental, as well as medicinal plants. Precious metals and minerals abound in its territory, and it is one of the few countries which possess diamond mines.

The Indians have had very little influence in the population of the European colonies, and are found only in the immense regions of the interior, where some live now as in primitive times. All combined, the Indians do not exceed 500,000. A considerable augmentation of the population is due to the importation of Africans into the colonies of Brazil, in order to form the base of a working population, and the mixture of blood with them is noted in the regions of the north. In the southern states, where immigration is encouraged, there are 500,000 Germans. In the central states, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Menas Geraes especially, the Italians have come in and their number exceeds 1,500,000; while the number of Spaniards will be about 400,000. All these colonies together form part of the Brazilian republic of today.

Rio de Janeiro, capital and the principal social and commercial center, is situated in the extreme southern part of the Bay of Rio, and is called by those who have authority to say, the largest port in the world.. Rio is also called the cleanest city of the world, an dthe aspiration for this title is well founded. Although it has not a fourth of the inhabitants of Paris, it occupies twice the space of

the French capital. All the ground which is not built upon is covered with gardens and verdure. Its population is about 1,000,000 souls, but undoubtedly, if one counts those who work in Rio and live without the city, the number of its inhabitants is much larger. The city itself is very beautiful, and since its foundation by the Portugese, during the monarchial rule, and more actively during the recent years of the republic, it has increased its artistic character.

The cost of living is relatively high in Rio de Janeiro, in the purchasing of necessaries by those who live there permanently, but the prices at hotels are no more than those of the hotels in the large cities of the United States. All the commercial trade is measured in terms of paper money called "milreis de papel," which have a value of about 32.4 cents in the United States. That is to say, there are three "mikreis" in a dollar, excepting the milreis of gold, which are worth 54 cents, for financial and international transactions.

The principal ports of Brazil communiacte with the United States and Europe by steamship lines. Fifty trans-Atlantic lines have a stopping place in its ports, and many of them go as far south as the Plata river, offering an international service, in the South American sense of the word. Passenger ships leave New York once a week, which make a modern and quick trip of fourteen days to Rio de Janeiro; being of sixteen days duration with the one stop at Bahia.

(Adapted from the article by the same name in the Datos Generals, published by the Union Panamericana, translated by H. Turner.)

THE STAY-AT-HOME.

Although we do not wish to detract in the least from the honor attached to the act of giving one's self for the freedom of the world, we do believe that the public casts too contempuous a glance upon the lad who stays at home. Our nation has chosen the conscription plan of selecting those men who are to fight her battles. If a friend of yours, who is under or over the draft age, has not enlisted,

do not condemn him at once. There are many reasons why these men do not go. Some are physically unable, of course; some are much better suited to other branches of service, and above all, the nation has not called them. Some of them are cowards, it must be admitted; but there are conscripted cowards too. The majority of them are offering their SERVICE, although not their LIVES. They are patriotic and worthy of praise, the most of them.

SLIM.

This man is worthy of praise. He has long been a student at Centenary; worked under great disadvantages, made a good name for himself, and lately added another laurel to his collection by going into the service of Uncle Sam. We are sure that he will always be an honor to Centenary's name; whether it be off the coast of Normandy, in desecrated Belgium, in lovely Alsace, or in Italy's high battle line. Our best wishes go with you, Slim, and may you return "in due season" and tell us of your part in making the "world safe for Democracy."

Duplantis was busy licking one-cent stamps and sticking them on his letters. Prof. Battle came up and said, "Dupey, you will find it to taste better if you lick the envelope." Dupey replied, "Thanks, Professor, for the information; but you see, I've cultivated a taste for the stamps now."

Anders was busy plouging. Prof. Sawyer walked up and asked, "don't that mule ever try to kick you, Anders?" The worthy scholar answered, "No, sir; sometimes she kicks where I was, tho'."

Our right honorable Local Editor has been so extremely busy making plans to get a quarter-page ad for this publication, that he has well-night forgotten his sacred duty of thinking smiles. (He has'nt the ad, either).

THE MAROON AND WHITE

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YOURSELF.

You are the greatest enemy or your greatest friend according to the rigidness or slackness of your self control. All the powers of perdition may beat and storm against the gates of your being; yet their destroying influences are but the murmurs of a distant sea until you personally open the flood-gates. No one, and no thing can steep you in the swamp of sin or lift you to the heights save you yourself.

CHARACTER.

That old sorites on character building is well worth reconsideration, which goes: "thoughts cause the deed; deeds oft repeated form habit; habits determine character, and character determines destiny."

POISE.

Poise is that element of character which enables one to go about his own business calmly and deliberately. It stifles an unreflective and hasty reply. It banishes nervousness in a public speaker; gives precision and emphasis where needed. It is the damper of anger, and the fly-wheel of ambition; the director of wisdom, and an indispensible element of success.

INTELLIGENCE.

Intelligence does not depend on the size of the brain alone. Were this true the elephant would be five times as wise as a man. It does depend to a certain extent, however, upon the relative sizes of the brain as compared with the relative sizes of the body. This makes the monkey more intelligent than the turtle or lion, for instance. This method of reasoning places man far above other animals in brain power. But among men it is impossible to judge intelligence by this method. A man may be dwarfed in body and have a marvelous brain, as Pope and others. Also he may be big in body and small in mind. But why the increased intelligence of man over lower animals? What is the physiological reason? It is supposed to be because of the higher development of the cortex in the human brain—there are more convolutions, thus giving a greater comparative brain surface.

RUSSIA.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing" said Pope. A nation suddenly set free from one of the most oppressive bondages ever known to man, on experiencing the sensation of absolute freedom, has almost gone mad. In Russia democracy is not democracy. Millions of peasants, who never knew and do not now know the first principles of democracy are trying to develop a thousand ideas, with success at none. The country is divided, drunk with wild ideals, and torn between conflicting opinions. And then, there is the war. 'Tis a hard matter to build a government and carry on the greatest of all wars at the same time. One or the other must be dropped. Russia, seemingly, has chosen to leave the war in order to attend to matters at home; but there the prevailing idea of a democracy seems to be that everybody must have a turn to rule, and in the way which suits him best. As a result there are revolutions and counter-revolutions going on all the time. Just now the governing power, the Bolsheviki, are about to deal a serious blow to the Allies by making a separate peace with the German entente. This situa-

tion is a serious one, and one to cause deep concern among us; but we should remember and pity and help that giant who is struggling for the liberty and freedom which we, as Americans, possess.

AFFECTION.

Editor's Note.—We editors are sometimes at a loss as to what should go into our editions. Sometimes we are flooded with a superabundance of material, and then again we may be minus anything worthy. Such a condition as the latter will probably excuse these ravings of a pseudo-philosophical mind, which were dug up out of an ancient dairy written by a former Centenarian.

April 15, 1914.

We were talking (she and I) the other night about affection. She says I am extremely affectionate. I don't see wherein. I said she was not affectionate, and she told me I was blind—perhaps we are both blind.

But anyway, loving a girl does not necessarily mean being affectionate, by a wide margin. You may be very affectionate and not love her at all. Everybodys knows boys and girls now-a-days who are as affectionate as you please—like each other's company, kiss when they can, believe they are pulling off some notworthy stunt in so doing, and all; BUT they are few and far between who really love each other. From all outward appearances they may be head over heels in love, but when the tests of true love do come along, the majestic affection fades into oblivion. Some girls are affectionate when in the seclusion of the parlor, or the swing on the porch ,and then may not even speak to you when they pass you on the street. Now, that isn't right. I do not believe such action should be promoted. Affection is all right in its place; true love is not true love without it. It is the expression of love, and certainly is not an object of derision.

Doggone it, gossip is a menace to the welfare of society. Yet boys and girls express fully and unmercifully their opinions about anybody, and they are growing up worse gossipers than those of the present generation; and nine times out of ten, they are worse characters than

the objects of their discussions. There is no hope; the world is crazy, and it seems to me that everybody and everything is foolish. Yet there is no reason for such absolute madness in the action of the tongue. Instead of turning the thing loose on the race-track of gossip, why couldn't we train it from its youth, and make it the tamest creature imaginable?

But back to affection: she is actually becoming more so, and says that she has been infuenced by an aunt who has recently married, and who is very affectionate.

Good night! don't girls get mad and fly off the handle easy? I went to see her tonight, my heart swollen with love and hopes, and faith and affection; but I left soon—shivering. She simply put on my hat, and I tried to collect the debt incurred thereby. Darned if I ever try it again.

Just when you think a girl loves you, she busts the whole thing on account of an innocent little mistake. Girls are the most unreasonable creatures beneath the stars, surely.

April 25.—Man alive, ever see a cyclone? One of those bloomin' things came a'tearin' by here as if we had done something. Excitement is no name. Some of the boys flopped and flew and shinned around here like a couple of blind bats. One poor felow dropped his Greek and sprinted for the lake. He went in too, without a moment's hesitation. He was a pretty looking sight, sneaking up the steps like a soaked rat. But the hero of the event was (N. B. For obvious reasons I withhold the name of this man, who is now a divine of high position). He happened to be a Latin class at the time. He heard the deep roar of the approaching storm, and straightway began to tremble exceedingly. "Dr.—Dr. H-h-hill" he croaked, "There's a cyclone coming." That venerable old man replied, "No, I reckon not, B———." But B——— knew what was coming, and out of the room he darted, and down the hall, hatless and coatless, out into the open. In the distance the storm was seen tearing trees up by the roots, and hurling them like straws. All this B——— saw and dashed about, now trying to conceal his person behind a brick, behind a tree, behind a stump,

behind ANYTHING. But no sooner would he become settled in one place than his wild, terrified eyes would suggest a more suitable cover. Hence the poor fellow fled about the campus as one bewitched and absolutely without reason. He dropped, like a lump of lead, into a shallow ditch; and it is said, his fingers made the dirt fly until that hole was fully ten inches deeper. Here he nestled until the storm came exceedingly near, and then poor B———— saw that he was directly in its path. Up he jumped, and screaming as one possessed, fled in headlong flight toward the ravine on the east side of the college. You can't appreciate the humor of it unless you have seen B——'s little duck legs operate during the phenomenon called running.

Next morning Dr. Hill had a lot of fun out of the boys, concerning their actions on the previous day. B—— sat sullen and anxious. Chapel was dismissed. Somebody went up and had a short consultation with Dr. Hill, AND soon B—— was called into his presence.

"My son," the great old man began, "You are a minister of the gospel. You tell the people that they should believe in God, and believe His power to protect them in time of peril; don't you?" Poor B—— bowed his head and said "yes, sir." Dr. Hill continued, "Then yesterday, didn't you seek shelter in every available nook of this campus; didn't you flee like a madman into the ravine; didn't you become so frightened that you scarcely knew who you were?" B—— put his hands in his pockets, hung his head and confessed, "I did all that, Dr. Hill." "Then why," the great man thundered, "why didn't you be composed, calm, and have faith in God to deliver you from that danger?" Every boy in the room stood with "bated breath" to hear B's reply. I said he was the 'hero' of the event, and his reply is what earned that title. He stood silent a few moments, then drew himself up and said quite calmly, "Dr. Hill, I plead guilty to every accusation you make concerning my actions yesterday, and also concerning what I preach to my people. But I preach other things to them which you have overlooked. I certainly do plead with them to have faith in God; but I also tell them that He will do nothing for them so long as they

themselves remain motionless, confident that God will just pick them up and do all things for them. Yesterday, sir, was doing my part of saving myself, and——" but thunderous applause hushed his last words. I didn't see what Dr. Hill did then, but I rather think he patted B on the back and smilingly said, "That's right, my son. That's right. You will be a success. May God bless you."

Now that's the first real thing Ive put into this dairy. Henceforward I shall devote myself to such worthy things, and try to forget girls altogether. Girls and books don't mix.

HABIT.

A stream, in time, cuts a deep gorge through the hardest rock. A wagon, by going over the same route many times, will wear a deep rut, out of which it is extremely hard to come until the end is reached. It is easier to give acceleration to a moving body than it is to move it to begin with. A piece of paper creased once will crease easier the next time in that same place. The nervous system is most sensitive to the formation of habits. Persistent wrong doing ever increases the improbability of a turn toward the right. Science says that the destroying of habits that are bad (or any kind, for that matter), means simply the formation of new paths of nervous discharge. We say that this severing from evil and turning to the good is conversion. But whether our nervous systems be our allies or enemies we determine the habits which in turn determine our destiny.

THRIFT.

One twenty-five cent thrift stamp purchased by every person in the United States would yield to the Government a loan of 25 million dollars. Save a quarter a month by not eating candy (many of the manufacturers of which are Germans) and buy one of these stamps, and you will be doing your share toward raising for the Government a loan of 300 million dollars. That will help a great deal in defeating Germany. Save a loaf a week and

you will be doing your part toward saving thousands of barrels of flour. Fast a little bit; it will be good for your health, and at the same time be of great assistance in ending the war. Don't eat until you are hungry, and when you do eat, clean out the plate. Deny yourself. It is for your own good.

CENTENARY'S REPLY.

Last May some of our boys who felt the call so strong,
In spite of opposition did not tarry long.
There were seventeen in that noble band—
No better to be found in all the land;
Their motto was "Go we must
For we KNOW our cause is just
The sooner we make our start
The better we'll play our part."
We all hated to see them leave;
'Specially did the co-eds grieve.
Too many they were to mention each name,
But the last to leave us was Slim McLean.
Tho' they are gone, we think of them each day,
And pray that God may keep them on their way.

—Dan Anders, 21.

Prentice went to see her. They had ice cream for dessert. Of course Prentice's supply soon vanished, and she asked sweetly, "Won't you have some more cream, Prentice?" The Honorable Sydney replied augustly "Only a mouth-ful, please." Then she, thoughtlessly (???), called to the maid, "Please fill Mr. Smith's saucer again."

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